

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SEOUL 10818 230810Z  
ACTION MCE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 INR-07  
EB-08 IGA-02 HA-05 SSO-00 INRE-00 /058 W  
-----000892 230823Z /16  
O 230645Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8381

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 10818

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

DEPARTMENT PASS PM/MC ROBINSON

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, KS  
SUBKERT: SALE OF CHEMICAL MACE TO ROK

REF: SEOUL 10706

1. FOLLOWING LETTER, ADDRESSED TO EMBOFF KELLEY, AND SIGNED  
BY SUPREME PROSSCUTOR, DIRECTOR-GENERAL CORRECTIONAL ADMINIS-  
TRATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, SONG JONG-JIN (SONG  
CHONG-CHIN) WAS HAND DELIVERED TO EMBASSY DECEMBER 23:

QUOTE: WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLAIN THE REASON OF OUR ORDER  
FOR CHEMICAL MACE, MODEL MK-V, MANUFACTURED BY SMITH & WESSON.  
WE TAVE DETERMINED TO SUPPLY OUR CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITH  
THE ABOVE MENTIONED CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT, KNOWN AS BEING USED  
ALSO IN U.S. FEDERAL AND STATE PRISONS, WHICH PROVIDES AN  
EFFECTIVE MEANS TO PREVENT AND CONTROL ESCAPE CONSPIRACY AND

RIOTS OF PRISONERS WITHOUT INJURING HUMAN LIVES.

ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION OF MATKO SALES CORPORATION IN  
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NEW YORK, HOWEVER, THE STATE DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO THE  
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN KOREA ITS  
RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVING INTREPATION TO USAGE OF THE  
ABOVE MATERIALS WHETHER OR NOT INFRINGING ON HUMAN RIGHTS.  
BUT I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU THAT YOU MAY REST ASSURED  
THAT THE CHEMICAL MACE WILL BE USED ONLY IN THE DETENTION  
HOUSES AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE SUPERVISION

OF MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND NOT BE  
TRANSFERRED OUTSIDE IN ANY CASES. WE ALSO INSURE YOU  
THAT THE PURCHASE OF CHEMICAL MACE HAS NO RELATIONSHIP  
WITH POLITICAL OFFENDERS. WE BELIEVE THEIR USE WILL  
RATHER PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS OF MOST INMATES.  
ON THE OTHER HAND, UNLESS THE PENDING ORDER IS SETTLED  
UNTIL NEXT JANUARY, THE NECESSARY FUNDS WILL BE, BY  
REGULATIONS, REFUNDED TO THE NATIONAL TREASURY. THEREFORE,  
WE ARE IN A POSITION TO EXPEDITE THE PROGRESS OF THE  
BUSINESS URGENTLY.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR KIND UNDERSTANDING OF OUR SITUATION.

END QUOTE.

2. COPIES OF LETTER BEING POUCHED TO EA/K AND PM/MC.  
SNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SALES, CHEMICALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977SEOUL10818  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770479-0461  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SEOUL  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771221/aaaaarmh.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 46bccafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION MCE  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** 78 SEOUL 10706  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 138546  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KERT: SALE OF CHEMICAL MACE TO ROK  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PINS, KS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/46bccafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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